

Information Item: Introduction of five new property managers

The Division of Fish and Wildlife would like to introduce five new property managers. One property manager position and four assistant property manager position vacancies were recently filled at five different fish and wildlife areas.

**Bryan Boggs – Winamac FWA Assistant Property Manager**

Bryan graduated in 2012 from Ball State University with a Bachelor's degree in Natural Resources. He also has an Associate's degree in Conservation Law from Vincennes University. Bryan has gained a great deal of practical experience working for nearly 3 years as a full-time property Laborer at Jasper-Pulaski FWA. Bryan enjoys hunting for deer, waterfowl, and is beginning to explore turkey hunting as well. Winamac Fish & Wildlife Area is located in Pulaski County, Indiana, five miles north of the town of Winamac. This area totals 4,880 acres and is comprised of a wide variety of wildlife habitat types including second growth oak forests, crop and fallow fields, small pine plantations, brushy edges, and small shallow wetlands.

**Nick Echterling – Hovey Lake FWA Property Manager**

Nick grew up in Roselawn Indiana where he began hunting and fishing at the age of 8. He is an avid deer, turkey and waterfowl hunter and he spends the majority of his free time hunting or fishing. Nick graduated from Purdue University in 2012 with a bachelor's degree in wildlife. Nick began working as an intermittent laborer at LaSalle Fish and Wildlife Area in December 2012 and was shortly thereafter hired as a full time laborer. Nick was promoted to Glendale Assistant Manager in March 2015, then in August 2015 was promoted to Property Manager. Hovey Lake Fish and Wildlife Area is a unique natural area nestled in the Ohio River and Wabash River floodplains in extreme southwest Indiana. Hovey Lake FWA covers approximately 7,404 acres and features a 1,400 acre oxbow lake, other smaller sloughs, marshes and extensive bottomland hardwood forests.

**Jon Munter – Sugar Ridge FWA Assistant Property Manager**

Jon comes to us from Wansa, in northeast Nebraska. He attended the University of Nebraska at Kearny where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Natural Resources. In his spare time he enjoys hunting, fishing and just enjoying time in the great outdoors. Sugar Ridge Fish & Wildlife Area is unique in that much of the land has been strip-mined. Sugar Ridge is made up of six separate areas, totaling approximately 8,100 acres. The strip-mined land now features about 100 pits and lakes, along with rows of overburden from the mining operation. The land that has not been mined is mostly rough and rolling.

**Seth Peters – Kankakee FWA Assistant Property Manager**

Seth recently obtained his Bachelor's degree from Purdue University and worked as a Lab Technician and Teaching Assistant while working on his degree. Most recently, Seth worked for West-Inc. collecting data for a bat mortality study at wind farms in northwest Indiana and northern Illinois. Seth enjoys bird watching, deer & turkey hunting, and fishing. Kankakee is dedicated to providing quality hunting and fishing opportunities while maintaining 4,095 acres, which includes open water, marshes, riparian timber, periodically flooded crop fields and 11 miles of river. The entire area is situated in what was the Kankakee Grand Marsh, which once covered hundreds of thousands of acres.

**Chad Springer – Crosley FWA Assistant Property Manager**

Chad hails from a small farming town in Northeastern Ohio where the outdoors became a major part of his life. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science with a terrestrial concentration at The State University of New York College at Brockport. After graduation, he took an internship at Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge. From there he worked as an Equipment Operator for Fish & Wildlife, then was promoted to Deer Creek FWA Assistant Property Manager and only recently transferred to Crosley FWA as Assistant Property Manager. In his off time, Chad is an avid sportsman who pursues almost all of the game species Indiana has to offer. Crosley Fish and Wildlife Area is made up of 4,228 acres of rolling hills, ponds and the Muscatatuck River. Approximately 80 percent of the property is wooded, and about seven miles of the Muscatatuck River flows through the property. The property also has 13 ponds, ranging in size from 2-14 acres.